Jerry Tomlinson's store was in the middle of the village, and being the only shop in the place the old man did a thriving business, though his rough eccentric manners frightened many of his customers, and he made no secret of his contempt and hatred for every thing "religious." Some of his neighbors who had attended Colonel Waldegrave's meetings, and had learned there of pardon and peace through the atonement of Jesus, often looked with pity at the gloomy, hardfaced man, and prayed that the Sun of Righteousness might shine into the darkness of his heart, but they dared not speak.

But by this time Thomas had arrived at his door. The upper half was swung back on its hinges, and over the lower half the old man was to be seen peering out into the gloom. He came forward with unusual politeness as Thomas drove up, and listened attentively to the Colonel's message, which Thomas delivered with a quaking of heart that no one would have suspected who looked at his erect bearing and unmoved face.

Jerry paused a moment in his reply, and then spoke with great deliberation: "Ye mind t'answer I gied ye when ye cam' on that business afore, and I wonder that ye'd come again, but ye soldiering folk don't give in for a trifle I reckon. Anyhow, I ain't a-going to give t'same answer this time, and I'll tell ye why. I know all t'folks about here as well as I know my mother. They've been born in t'village and come in and out o' this door since they were big just enough to stand a tip-toe and peep over t'bottom half. And some of them's honest and some isn't. It's only a sprinkling here and there that manages to keep out of debt, and there are dozens in t'village that got into my books and never cared about getting out again, until, a few weeks ago, first one came and cleared a few shillings off, and then another, and now they've squared it all off. Though I've said naught to them, nor them to me, I've noticed that it's them as has been keenest about going to your master's meetings that have changed their manners so much, and old Jer I've noticed that it's them as has been keenest about going to your master's meetings that have changed their manners so much, and old Jerry can put two and two together as well as most folks. So now let me know how much oil you want, and you shall have it, and my respects make to t'Colonel and say that if his religion teaches folks to be honest and pay their debts, there must be summat in it, and for the future I'll be glad to let him have all the light he wants for nothing." nothing

A striking lesson, never more needed than in these times. It is easy to say "Lord, Lord," when saying so does not put the life in jeopardy; it is not so easy to be true in all our words and honest in all our dealings for his sake. A devout believer who "adds to his faith" toward God this "virtue" of fair dealing toward his fellow-men, does more to disarm an infidel of his best weapons than could the cleverest book on the "Evidences."—Sunday at Home.

## GHOST STORIES.

I know that some young people are fond of ghost stories, and sometimes are dreadfully frightened as they hear them. A cold chill runs through their veins, and perhaps they dream of them at night, and wake up with a start, ready to fancy all sorts of strange things. Well, I, too, like sometimes to hear or read a ghost story, but I always like to things. Well, I, too, like sometimes to hear or read a ghost story, but I always like to hear the explanation of it; for I believe that in every case an explanation might be given, if it could only be found out. I have been induced to think of this especially lately by

if it could only be found out. I have been induced to think of this especially lately by the following circumstances.

I have come, with my wife and young family, to reside in a very old-fashioned house. It is situated in the country, and surrounded by fields, gardens, and trees. It is the very sort of place that might easily be imagined to be haunted.

One night, soon after we had got comfortably settled into it, I was awakened by a mysterious creaking sound, as if some door in our room was being slowly opened; and yet it hardly seemed quite like the noise of one of the bedroom doors. My wife awoke at the same moment, and we both asked: "What is it?" We searched for matches, but they were not in their accustomed place, and it was some time before they could be found; but then in a moment the mystery was explained. It was the cat, who had secreted herself in a wardrobe, and had pushed the doors open to let herself out! We soon turned her out of the room, and went to sleep again; but, as it seemed to us, almost

very unusual to it, during his drive to Fullerton.

Jerry Tomlinson's store was in the middle of the village, and being the only shop in the place the old man did a thriving business, though his rough eccentric manners frightenthough his rough eccentric manners frightenthough his customers, and he made no rap, rap. What could it be? We could not tell exactly where was dead silence.

The underested to a scored sentence, with the question whispered aloud,—
"How readest thou?"

The underested it may be first claim upon every child of God. We need the place we did not tell exactly where one of sound. It went on—rap work when God places were awakened by another mysterious sound—a deliberate rapping somewhere downstairs—we could not tell exactly where—not like the rapping of a knocker on a door, but a hollow, muffled, curious kind of sound. It went on—rap and representation of the place of the little one.

The underested it is the little one.

The underested it is the little one.

The underested it is and putting the volume straight before the Judge, pointed to a scored sentence, with the question whispered aloud,—
"How readest thou?"

The underested it is and the middle of God. We need the place the old man did a thriving business, the place of the little one.

This was godly and Christ-like. Home duties and fireside responsibilities have the first claim upon every child of God. We need not go abroad for work when God places work within our reach. curious kind of sound. It went on—rap rap, rap. What could it be? We could not imagine. I got up, and looked about the house, and called the dog from the kitchen but could see nothing. The sound ceased as I got up, and we were glad to find that it was not renewed and soon we went to sleep was not renewed, and soon we went to sleep

was not renewed, and soon we went to steep again.

Next day we thought and spoke of the mysterious sound, but no explanation of it could be given, until at night just as I was looking round the house, and seeing that all was safely bolted and locked, I passed by the hat-stand in the hall, and suddenly remembered that some time ago, in our former house, our dog used to pull down the cloaks hanging upon the stand, in the middle of the night, to make himself an extra-bed and that in so doing he had made a rapping sound house, our dog used to pull down the cloaks hanging upon the stand, in the middle of the night, to make himself an extra-bed and that in so doing he had made a rapping sound which several times had awakened us, and was something like the sound which we had heard the night before; but then he had been repeatedly punished for the trick, and had entirely given it up; was it possible that he had re-commenced it in this our present house? I took hold of the hat-stand and pulled it to and fro. Yes, with a hard pull it hit back against the wall, and made a rapping sound. It was the dog then; but, to make assurance doubly sure I placed a stick, well balanced, upon the top of the stand, which would fall with a loud noise if the stand were shaken, and then retired to rest. Sure enough, in the middle of the night, a loud noise resounding through the hall proclaimed the fact that the cunning animal had been at his old tricks again, and it was he who was to blame for the mysterious ghost-like sounds.

"Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night." How sweet is this promise! Things appear so different to us at night to what they do by day. Sounds which would be almost inaudible by day are distinctly heard at night, and things are mysterious and alarming at night which are not at all mysterious or alarming by day. I have read of a young officer, who bravely fought and risked his life at Waterloo, that he was not nearly so much alarmed with the sights and sounds of that tremendous battle as he was a few nights afterward by a strange noise in his bed-chamber, in an old French farm-house. Something came creeping along the room, and up to the side of his bed. His hair stood on end with fright, and he grasped his sword, and struck with it violently right and left, but soon he was calmed by hearing a poor pussy's "mew!" It was a kitten, who had found her way into the warrior's room and had given him this terrible fright.

Yes, the strong sometimes become weak, and the courageous timid; but, if we fear God, we have really no re

# "HOW READEST THOU?"

You remember, no doubt, the old lawyer, our college treasurer, Squire Clark, said an editorial friend to me lately, in an evening home-talk, in which memories of early days were recalled.

were recalled.
Yes, I replied, and I remember, too, the lesson that he taught the law-students one day, by means of a short question that they heard him ask in open court. Our professor reported it to the class, and I noted it as a good title for a lecture.

Squire Clark was a good-looking old gentleman, nearly seventy, but quick in movement, not tall or heavy, but, as one said, "lively as a cricket," and cheerful as any of "our boys."

The Judge read it, and then lifting his eyes from the page, said in a calm, judicial "You are right, Mr. Clark!"

"You are right, Mr. Clark!"
Quick as thought the grand old man responded pleasantly, "Yes, your honor, always right, always right!"
The courtroom rang with peals of laughter, in which the Judge joined heartily.
That was a victory. The professor who reported it, in his closing gave the talk a turn toward religion, and said,—
"Young gentlemen, in studying matters of religious interest you will have to deal with men's contradictory statements, backed up by quotations from the Bible, the old lawbook of the ages.
"Now, if you would escape bewilderment, treat your Bible as Squire Clark treated his law-book; study it thoroughly—each for himself—so that you are intimately acquainted with its principles and its decisions. relation to God and man, to earth and heaven."—Youth's Companion.

# BUILT THEIR OWN BOAT.

"Where there's a will there's a way," has been illustrated in the victory of more than one enterprising lad over difficulties.

During the last summer, three boys, stopping with their parents at Atlantic City, New Jersey, one being ten and the others thirteen years of age, saw a little boat at the landing which so pleased them that they wished the little craft was theirs, and tried hard to prevail upon their parents to purchase it for them.

Failing in this, they resolved to build one

themselves, and gathering together the proper materials by purchasing lumber and borrowing tools, went at the work.

In thirty days, with no assistance from any boat-builder and only an occasional look at their model boat, their little craft, eight feet their model boat, their little craft, eight feet their length, was ready for the water. The in length, was ready for the water. The happy day came when all preparations were completed to launch her, and with the ceremonies usual to such circumstances, with a beautiful flag floating from her mast, and amid loud hurrahs from the spectators, who were seated on a platform erected by the lads, the little boat was sent affoat.

She will carry three persons, has a mast and sail, and is painted and finished through-out in a neat and substantial manner.

## THE BIBLE ITS OWN WITNESS.

The following incident was related by the Rev. Dr. Yates, a veteran member of the American Baptist Mission in Shanghai. It Rev. Dr. Yates, a veteran member of the American Baptist Mission in Shanghai. It occurred some twenty years ago. A Chinese merchant came into his chapel one afternoon and after talking with him for a short time Dr. Yates sold him a copy of the New Testament. He took it home, 200 or 300 miles away, and after about three months appeared again in the chapel. He came back to say that he was under the impression that the book was not complete, that surely it must have other parts, and so he came to get the Old Testament, as he had read and studied the New. What had he done with the New Testament? He had taken it to his home and had shown it to the schoolmaster and the reading people. They said, "This is a good book. Confucius himself must have had something to do with it. As there was only one copy, they unstitched this one, and took it leaf by leaf, and all those who could write took a leaf home. They made twelve or fifteen complete copies of the New Testament, and introduced it into their schools without any "conscience clause." It was introduced as a class-book, throughout that district, for heathen schools.

the little one.

This was godly and Christ-like. Home duties and fireside responsibilities have the first claim upon every child of God. We need not go abroad for work when God places work within our reach.

"The daily round, the common task," provides ample opportunities for serving God, doing whatsoever our hands find to do.

Little words not elevant speeches: little

Little words, not eloquent speeches; little deeds, not miracles, nor battles, nor one great heroic act or mighty martyrdom, make up the Christian life.—Dr. H. Bonar, Word and Work.

THE BEST RECIPE for going through life in an exquisite way with beautiful manner, is to feel that everybody, no matter how rich or how poor, needs all the kindness he can get from others.

### Question Corner.-No. 13.

Answers to these questions should be sent in as soon as possible and addressed Editor Northern Messenger, it is not necessary to write out the question, give merely the number of the question and the answer. In writing letters always give clearly the name of the place where you live and the initials of the province in which it is structed.

### BIBLE QUESTIONS.

- 145. For whom did a band of men lie in wait, bound by an oath that they would neither eat nor drink till they
- had killed him?

  146. Where in the Bible is Paul first mentioned?

  147. Which of the apostles cut off the right
- ear of a man with a sword?

  148. On what occasion did he do it and who
- was the man?

  149. Who said that if all the things which
  Jesus did were recorded "I suppose
  that even the world itself could not
  contain the books that should be written "?
- 150. What was the parting promise of Christ to his disciples?

  151. By whom was Paul educated?

  152. Who was the father-in-law of Moses?
- 152. Who was the father-in-law of moses 153. What prophet when he was first called was ploughing with twelve yoke of
- 154. What exile returned and rebuilt the
- walls of the city of his fathers?

  155. How long did the Israelites sojourn in the land of Egypt?

  156. How long did Job's friends tarry without saying a word when they came to mourn with him?

# BIBLE ACROSTIC.

- 1. What the Spirit is sometimes called.
  2. The city in which Paul preached his most noted sermons.
  3. The name of the damsel who was gate-beaver for the church while they
- keeper for the church while they prayed for Peter.

  4. The name of the people whose great champion David killed.

  5. The name of one of Jacob's grandsons.

  6. The name of an ancestor of every person now living.

- 5. The name of an ancestor of every person now living.
  7. The name of a disciple whom Peter raised from the dead.
  8. The name of the man whose prayers brought or withheld the rain.
  9. The name of an ancient total abstinence for the name of an ancient total abstinence.
- family.

  The initials form the name of the trade at

which Jesus worked. ANSWERS TO BIBLE QUESTIONS IN NO. 11.

- 121. Absalom's. 2 Sam. xviii. 9, 15.
  122. Jezebel. 1 Kings xxi. 1, 16.
  123. Elijah. 1 Kings xxi. 17, 24.
  124. She was thrown out of a window and devoured by dogs. 2 Kings ix. 30, 37.
  125. At Jericho. 2 Kings ii. 5, 9.
  126. Enoch. Gen. v. 24; Heb. xi. 5.
  127. To the tribe of Judah. Dan. i. 6.
  128. The street which is called Straight Acts

- 128. The street which is called Straight. Acts ix. 11.129. Samuel. 1 Sam. xii. 2, 3.

- 129. Saintel. I Saint, Xi. 2, 5.
  130. Lev. xix. 32.
  131. Caleb. Josh. xiv. 10, 11.
  132. Judah numbered seventy-four thousand six hundred men able for war. Num. i. 27.

# CORRECT ANSWERS RECEIVED.

- To No. 11.—David McGee, 12; Alex. George Burr, 12; Janet Pattison, 11; Sarah Pattison, 11; Annie M. Pattison, 11. To No. 10.—James Dudley, 12; Helen Nichol-son, 11, David McGee, 11; Florence E. Weather-by, 14.